

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-61 (Cancelled)

Claim 62 (Currently Amended) A method for controlling channel changes in television or digital radio having a tuner or receiver, the method for controlling channel changes comprising: involving

monitoring channel change commands received from a user ~~over~~ during a zapping session during which channels are discarded;

identifying ~~a~~ discarded channel-channels;

determining whether or not a program transmitted on an identified discarded channel has changed; and

preventing the tuner or receiver from ~~tuning-returning~~ to the discarded channel-channels during ~~the rest a remainder~~ of the zapping session ~~or unless the determining of whether or not the program transmitted on the discarded channel has changed determines it is determined that a programme the program~~ transmitted on the discarded channel has changed,

wherein ~~the step of identifying of the~~ discarded channel-channels includes-involves (i) monitoring a time that the user has for which the viewer viewed the a channel during the zapping session, and (ii) based on the time that the user has viewed the channel, ~~basis of this,~~ determining whether ~~or not~~ the channel is the discarded channel.

Claim 63 (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising setting a viewing time threshold used by the determining of whether or not the channel is to be

discarded.

Claim 64 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 63, wherein, if the ~~monitored viewing time that the user has viewed the channel~~ is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

Claim 65 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in ~~claim 63-claim 64~~, wherein, if the ~~monitored viewing time that the user has viewed the channel~~ is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

Claim 66 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 64, wherein, if the ~~monitored viewing time that the user has viewed the channel~~ is at least the viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

Claim 67 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 64, wherein, if the ~~monitored viewing time that the user has viewed the channel~~ is at least the ~~set~~ viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

Claim 68 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 64, further comprising receiving a user input that indicates ~~indicative of~~ the viewing time threshold ~~set~~.

Claim 69 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising determining whether or not a programme ~~programme~~ program on a particular channel has changed.

Claim 70 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 69, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining ~~of whether or not the a programme program on the particular channel~~ has changed ~~includes involves~~ comparing ~~programmeprogram~~ identifiers ~~for the of a~~ previously viewed ~~programmeprogram~~ and the a currently viewed ~~programmeprogram~~.

Claim 71 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 69, wherein the ~~step of~~ determining ~~of whether or not the a programme program on the a~~ particular channel has changed ~~includes; involves~~

monitoring real time;

identifying ~~programmeprogram~~ scheduling information for ~~the a~~ particular channel; and

using the identified scheduling information and the monitored real time to determine whether or not there is a change in ~~the a~~ currently broadcast ~~programmeprogram~~.

Claim 72 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 62, further including- involving receiving a control signal₁ from the user₁ that indicates that a channel zapping session is starting, ~~this the control~~ signal prompting ~~the a~~ start of ~~the step of~~ monitoring ~~the~~ channels zapped to and ~~those channels~~ discarded.

Claim 73 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed claim 62, further comprising- wherein the method involves receiving₁ from ~~a the~~ user₁ a signal that is indicative of representing a command to stop the channel zapping session.

Claim 74 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising terminating the channel zapping session if no channel change commands are received over a pre-determined time.

Claim 75 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising identifying an advertisement,[[.]] temporarily excluding ~~the a~~ channel showing that the advertisement ~~is being shown on from the a~~ pool of available channels, and reintroducing the excluded channel when the advertisement is finished.

Claim 76 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 62, further comprising identifying an advertisement and showing material, ~~such as including~~ a video clip or text, ~~which~~ is associated with a the programme program that is to be available for viewing shown when the advertisement is finished.

Claim 77 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 76, further comprising involving recording a portion of a the programme program available for viewing shown immediately preceding the advertisement and displaying the portion of the program this to the user during the advertisement.

Claim 78 (Currently Amended) The A-method as claimed in claim 77, further comprising carrying out ~~the step of~~ recording of the portion of the program for all available channels.

Claim 79 (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A method as claimed in claim 62, ~~further~~ comprising: monitoring ~~programme~~program changes; identifying ~~the a~~ most recently provided or broadcast ~~programme~~program; and presenting the most recently provided or broadcast ~~programme~~program identified by the identifying of the most recently provided or broadcast program to the user in response to a channel change command.

Claim 80 (Currently Amended) A system for controlling channel changes in television or digital radio having a tuner or receiver, the system comprising:

means for monitoring channel change commands received from a user ~~during~~over a zapping session during which channels are discarded;

means for identifying ~~a~~ discarded ~~channel~~channels;

means for determining whether or not a program transmitted on an identified discarded channel has changed; and

means for preventing the tuner or receiver from tuning to the discarded ~~channel~~channels during ~~a the rest remainder~~ of the zapping session ~~or unless the means for determining determines it is determined that the a programme~~program transmitted on the discarded channel has changed,

wherein the means for identifying ~~discarded channels~~ includes ~~comprise~~ means for (i) monitoring a time ~~that the user has for which the viewer viewed the a~~ channel during ~~the zapping session~~, and (ii) based on the time that the user has viewed the channel ~~basis of this~~, determining whether or not the channel is the discarded channel.

Claim 81 (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~-system as claimed in claim 80, further comprising means for setting a viewing time threshold ~~used for use~~ by the means for determining whether the channel is to be discarded.

Claim 82 (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~-system as claimed in claim 81, wherein, if the ~~monitored viewing time~~ that the user has viewed the channel is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

Claim 83 (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~-system as claimed in claim 81, wherein, if the ~~monitored viewing time~~ that the user has viewed the channel is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

Claim 84 (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~-system as claimed in claim 81, wherein, if the ~~monitored viewing time~~ that the user has viewed the channel is at least the ~~set~~ viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

Claim 85 (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~-system as claimed in claim 81, wherein, if the ~~monitored viewing time~~ that the user has viewed the channel is at least the ~~set~~ viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

Claim 86 (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~-system as claimed in claim 80, further comprising

means for receiving a user input ~~that indicates indicative of the viewing time threshold times set.~~

Claim 87 (Currently Amended) ~~The A-system as claimed in claim 80, further comprising~~
means for determining whether or not a programme program on a particular channel has changed.

Claim 88 (Currently Amended) ~~The A-system as claimed in claim 87, wherein the means~~
for determining whether or not the a programme program on the particular channel has changed,
includes comprise means for comparing programme program identifiers ~~for the of a~~ previously
viewed channel and a the programme program currently available.

Claim 89 (Currently Amended) ~~The A-system as claimed in claim 87-claim 80, wherein the~~
means for determining whether or not the a programme program on the a particular channel has
changed ~~are is~~ operable to:

monitor real time;

identify programme program scheduling information for ~~the a~~ particular channel; and

use the identified scheduling information and the monitored real time to determine
whether or not there is a change in ~~the a~~ currently broadcast programme program.

Claim 90 (Currently Amended) ~~The A-system as claimed in claim 80, further comprising~~
means for receiving, from the user, a control signal ~~from the user indicative of the that indicates~~
that start of a channel zapping session is starting, and means for recognizing the control signal as
a zapping session identifier and for activating the a means for monitoring ~~the~~ channels zapped to

and ~~these channels~~ discarded, in response to the zapping command.

Claim 91 (Currently Amended) ~~The A-system~~ as claimed in claim 80, further comprising means for receiving, from ~~the a~~ user, a signal ~~that is indicative of~~ representing a command to stop the channel zapping session.

Claim 92 (Currently Amended) ~~The A-system~~ as claimed in claim 80, further comprising means for terminating the channel zapping session if no channel change commands are received over a pre-determined time.

Claim 93 (Currently Amended) ~~The A-system~~ as claimed in claim 80, further comprising a display for displaying ~~showing the programmes/programs on~~.

Claim 94 (Currently Amended) ~~The A-system~~ as claimed in claim 80, being adapted to receive channel change commands from a remote control.

Claim 95 (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium having a computer program recorded thereon, the computer program ~~preferably on a data carrier or some other computer-readable medium~~, for controlling channel changes in a television or digital radio having a tuner or receiver, the computer program causing a computer to execute a method comprising: having code or instructions for

monitoring channel change commands received from a user during over a zapping

session during which channels are discarded;

identifying a discarded channel-channels;

determining whether or not a program transmitted on an identified discarded channel has changed; and

preventing the tuner or receiver from tuning to the discarded channel-channels during the rest a remainder of the zapping session or unless the determining of whether or not the program transmitted on the discarded channel has changed determines it is determined that a programme the program transmitted on the discarded channel has changed,

wherein the identifying of the code or instructions for determining discarded channel-channels includes (i) monitoring are operable to monitor a time that the user has for which the viewer viewed a the channel during the zapping session, and (ii) based on the time that the user has viewed the channel, basis of this, determine determining whether or not the channel is the discarded channel.

Claim 96 (Currently Amended) The computer-readable recording medium~~A computer program~~ as claimed in claim 95, further comprising code or instructions for setting a viewing time threshold used by the for use by the means for determining of whether or not the channel is to be discarded.

Claim 97 (Currently Amended) The computer-readable recording medium~~A computer program~~ as claimed in claim 96, wherein, if the ~~monitored~~ viewing time that the user has viewed the channel is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

Claim 98 (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program~~ The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 96, wherein, if the ~~monitored-viewing time~~ that the user has viewed the channel is at most the viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

Claim 99 (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program~~ The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 96, wherein, if the ~~monitored-viewing time~~ that the user has viewed the channel is at least the ~~set~~ viewing time threshold, then the channel is discarded.

Claim 100 (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program~~ The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 96, wherein, if the ~~monitored-viewing time~~ that the user has viewed the channel is at least the ~~set~~ viewing time threshold, then the channel is retained.

Claim 101 (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program~~ The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 95, further comprising ~~code or instructions for~~ receiving a user input that indicates ~~indicative of the viewing time threshold times.~~

Claim 102 (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program~~ The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 95, further comprising ~~code or instructions for~~ determining whether or not a ~~programme~~ program on a particular channel has changed.

Claim 103 (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program~~ The computer-readable recording

medium as claimed in claim 102, wherein ~~the code or instructions for the~~ determining of whether ~~or not the a program on the particular channel~~ has changed ~~includes comparing are operable to~~ compare program identifiers ~~of a for the~~ previously viewed program and ~~the a~~ program currently available.

Claim 104 (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program~~ The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 102 ~~claim 95~~, wherein ~~the code or instructions for the~~ identifying of whether ~~or not the a programme program on the a~~ particular channel has changed ~~includes are operable to monitor~~

monitoring real time;

identifying ~~identify programme program~~ scheduling information for ~~the a~~ particular channel; and

using the identified scheduling information and the monitored real time to determine whether ~~or not~~ there is a change in ~~the a~~ currently broadcast ~~programme program~~.

Claim 105 (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program~~ The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 95, further comprising ~~code or instructions for~~ receiving a control signal, from the user, that indicates that a channel zapping session is starting, ~~this the control~~ signal prompting ~~the a~~ start of ~~the step of~~ monitoring the channels zapped to and ~~these channels~~ discarded.

Claim 106 (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program~~ The computer-readable recording

medium as claimed in claim 95, ~~further comprising wherein the code or instructions are operable to receive~~ receiving, from a user, a signal ~~that is indicative of representing~~ a command to stop the channel zapping session.

Claim 107 (Currently Amended) ~~A computer program~~ The computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 95, further comprising ~~code or instructions~~ for terminating the channel zapping session if no channel change commands are received over a pre-determined time.

Claim 108 (Currently Amended) A set top box that includes a ~~system or~~ computer program as defined in claim 95.

Claim 109 (Currently Amended) A television system that includes a ~~system or~~ computer program as defined in claim 95.

Claim 110 (Currently Amended) A digital radio that includes a ~~system or~~ computer program as defined in claim 95.